

February 5, 1976

PRESIDENT: Do you want to close on your motion, Senator Chambers. The question is shall this bill be returned for specific amendment. Record your vote. Have you voted? Record.

CLERK: 18 ayes, 23 nays on the motion to return, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: The motion fails. Read the bill.

CLERK: Read title to LB 477.

(machine inactivated)

CLERK: I move to return LB 266 to Select File for specific amendment to strike the enacting clause. Signed, Senator Chambers.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Chairman, members of the Legislature. When this bill was being considered across the board I was opposed to it and stated that a federal reserve program should be funded by the federal government. In view of the fact that it's difficult to determine what the fiscal impact of this on the state will be is another reason why it should not be passed.

If you'll bear with me I'll read a brief statement from the fiscal note and then it will put it in perspective. "The fiscal impact of LB 266 is difficult to predict for two reasons a) the bill may encourage new enlistments in the reserve who may join specifically to make use of the 50 percent tuition waiver. The institutions do not identify students who are members of the reserve in this registration record. In light of these reasons the following assumptions are made. Reservists will utilize the benefit at the same rate as guardsmen and will enroll at the various institutions in the same proportion. There will not be a significant increase in enlistments as a result of this waiver and tuition rates will be the same during 1975 and 1976 as they are today." They cannot make those assumptions. They cannot assume that this waiver will not cause an increase in enlistments, nor can they make the assumption that tuition rates will always remain the same.

On one of the other notes they say there will be, probably, a mushrooming effect from this bill down through the years, and the cost will become greater. If you look, it's hard for me to figure out which fiscal note is which. I see one which talks about the impact of the reserve tuition reduction will be a mushrooming effect over the years. "As the members of the reserve become aware of this opportunity there will be an increase in participation. This will be particularly true in the Omaha-Lincoln area. At this time our projection would be on the conservative side because it must be based on historical data." Then here's some figures that they give: "Western area \$600, midplains area \$600; central area \$2,100; Northeast area \$750; Southeast area \$1,500; metropolitan area \$7,250." I don't even know what those figures refer to for sure. If you go to other pages you see other figures. Like I see \$112,868. When you consider the amount